SWINE—SELECTION of BREEDING STOCK

Picking the right animals for breeding purposes is a large and important job for the swine producers, says Jim Smith, county agent. Breeding animals should be free from abnormalities and diseases that may cause sterility, have adequate mammary development, and strenght of legs, feet, and body.

A second requirement is that they have the genetic potential for the production of meaty, rapid growing, efficient pigs. Many sows can produce a litter, but the litter may be so small that it has little chance of showing a profit. The problem, says Smith, is one of increasing litter size.

Management and inheritonce both contribute to litter size at farrowing. However, many exeperiments (as well as practical observations) have shown that the heritabilty of litter size is quite low.

Selection within a herd or breed is an effective way to improve meatiness in hogs. Backfat thickness, loin eye area, and carcass length are all highly heritable.

A swine selection program designed to place emphasis on meatiness can be expected to make permanent improvement in these traits, says the agent.

Unfortunately, it is not possible at present to measure many of the important carcass characteristics without slaughtering the animal. It has been shown that backfat thickness as measured by a live animal backfat probe is closely related to total carass merit and is and effective live animal measurement of meatiness. Also, experimental results now being collected on the use of high frequency sound waves to measure loin eye area on live animals are encouraging.

Records are needed if selection is to be based on performance. A means of identifying each animal is also required, and this means that plans for a selection program should begin at farrowing time with ear notching the pigs.

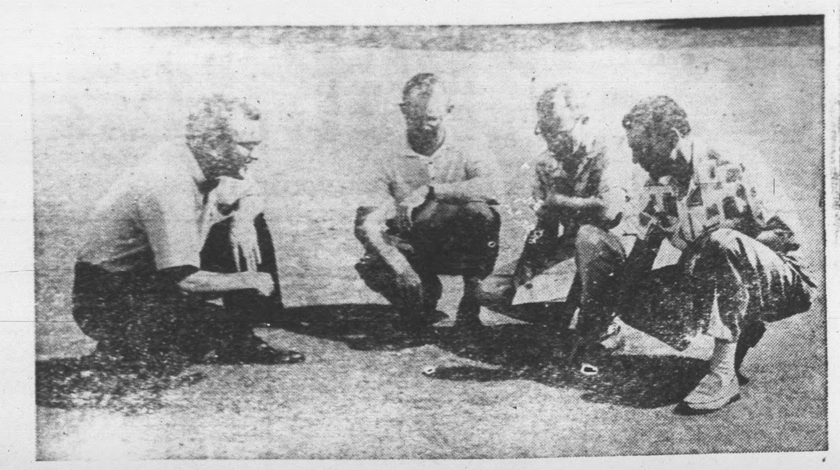
An initial selection of replacement gilts should be made at 150 to 175 pounds. Gilts with inherited defects can be culled first, along with those animals showing inferiot gaining ability and faulty conformation.

Backfat probes of live animals should be made on the remaining gilts when they reach 190 to 200 pounds weight. A suggested procedure for taking probes and adjusting them to a constant weight for comparison among animals is available from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

The final selection of gilts for replacement should be made to give emphasis to meatiness. One method is to first rank gilts on the basis of the live backfat thickness. Then, from the leanest two-thirds or three-fourths, make the final selection on the basis of rapid gains and good conformation.

Selecting a performance tested boar that is meaty and one that has proven his ability to make rapid, efficient gains will be a big help in insuring a profitable pig crop. From the genetic viewpoint, the boar is half of the herd.

Smith says, "you should take advantage of this point in your breeding program by using what your records and best judgment show is a genetically superior boar. Relatively rapid progress can be made in your swine herd merely by the continued use of boars that are better than average. Much of this improvement, however, can be lost in a short time if an undersirable boar is allowed to become a herd sire."



Getting ready for field day - Agronomists at Virginia Polytechnic Institute inspect experimental turf grasses as a preliminary to discussions to be highlighted at the annual Turfgrass Field Day at VPI, September 1. Left to right are Dr. H. L. Dunton, R. E. Schmidt, Dr. R. E. Blaser, and John F. Shoulders, Jr.

The field day will be open to anyone interested, and is especially designed for golf course and park superintendents, highway landscape engineers, and other people professionally interested in turfgrass. The program will begin at 9:45 a. m. at the VPI golf course.

Hix and Martin Appointed to Farmers Home Administration Committe

John W. Hix of Route 1, Pamplin and John A. Martin of Route 2, Gladstone have been appointed as members of the three-man Appomattox county Farmers Home Administration committee the agency's County Supervisor Hunter P. Evans, announced this week. The other member serving on the committee is H. Elliott Torrence of Route 2, Appomattox.

The local Farmers Home Administration county committe reviews applications by farmers and other rural families for six different types of agricultural, housing and water loans made in Appomattox county. In addition, the committee advises with the county supervisor regarding the adapting of national loan policies to local conditions.

Mr. Hix is a grade A dairyman in Hixburg community, operating as Hix Brothers. Mr. Martin is a tobacco and general farmer in the Liberty Chapel community. The farm is operated as Martin Brothers. Other than tobacco they have a beef-cow herd.

County Supervisor Evans says that the new committeemen's practical farming experience will enable them to make a real contribution to the county committee's actions when loan applications are reviewed.

498,000 have fled Algeria to France.

Thant asks U. N. to act on Congo.

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Richwood

Mrs. Myrtle Bell and Mr. Snow and friends of Roanoke were week end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Snow.

Mr. and Mrs. James Cordell, Joel Ruth, Brenda Pugh, Martha and Linda Cordell spent several days in Tenn. visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Martin and daughter and Mrs. H. C. Martin and Larry visited Mr. and Mrs. David Martin in Valdosta Ga. last week they also motored down in Florida.

Mrs. J. I. Brown of Washington spent several days at her home here.

Mr. and Mrs. John Teske and Mrs. Bert Wright of Takoma Park Md. recently visited Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Watt.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace L. Martin moved their Trailor to Va. Beach last week, where he is stationed at Oceana Navy base there.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. I. Watt Sat. were Mrs. Anna Ward, Mr. J. I. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Hicks, Mrs. H. C. Martin and Mrs. Curtis Snow and children.

Mrs. Anna Ward spent Sat. night with Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Hicks.

James Carter of Richmond visited his mother Mrs. Alpha Carter last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Fleshman and daughter visited Mr. and Mrs. Willie Pugh Sunday.

Mrs. J. A. Blazer spent several days in Norfolk with Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Martin.

Tear gas disperses anti-Red riot in Helsinki.

Land war rising in French farm areas.

Military support grows for Brazilian regime.

Evergreen

Evergreen Aug. 20—Revival will begin at Baptist Church here Aug 26. Visiting minister Rev. D. L. Bailey.

Rev. and Mrs. Cecil Carter of Salem were over nite guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Hamilton and son last Wednesday nite and they visited friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dixon and family spent the week end in N. C. visiting relatives.

Mrs. Ella Jennings is a patient at Va. Baptist Hospital, she had a fall at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward A Austin spent the week end with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Ferguson, of Richmond.

Those who visited Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Glover over the week end were Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Green, Mrs. S. D. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Glover all of Lynchburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lapage and family of Missouri are visiting relatives of Mrs. Lapage this week

Mr. Ernest Calhoun of Baltimore was called here due to the illness of his sister, Mrs. O. C. Paulette.

Miss Brenda Grishaw is visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Paulette and family of Phenix.

Mrs. Mabel White and daughter Sarah, and son, Chip of Lynchburg visited Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Steples Sunday p. m.

Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Paulette visited his mother at Va. Baptist Hospital Sunday.

Miss Leonda Hudson is visiting her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs Hudson Tuggle.

10 Nations pledge billion for Indian development.

Moscow accuses Americans at Soviet youth camp.

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Pamplin

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Richardson Sunday Aug 19, were Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Fore, of Lynchburg, Mrs. J. R Williams of Cullen, Mr. and Mrs. George Nichols of Bristol Va., Mr and Mrs. Harry Dixon.

Mr. James L. Richardson is now at home and improving.

Over the week end guests in the home of Mr. D. B. Williams, were Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Peters, and children of Richmond, Va.

Miss Beuloh Cobb, Mrs. Viola Wayne, Mrs. Thelma Adams, and daughter Helen, Mr. Percell Woodall, and Mrs. Addie Belle, visited Mrs. Bob Warrell and family in Amelia Sun, and was accompanied home by Catherine Alexander. Catherine will spend the week here with her Aunt Buelah.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Baldwin and 3 children left Sat. for Miami Florida where they expect to spend a few days of their vacation.

Mrs. Clara Baldwin, and her daughter Mrs. Mary Hamlett visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs Elmo Lee Sun. p. m.

Visitors in the home of Mr and Mrs. Robert Fore, this past week were, Mr. James C. Fore Mr. Fore's brother of Richmond Va., Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Maxwell Mrs. C. W. Slayton, and Mrs Beverly Jackson of Richmond.

The annual reunion of the late John, and Laura, Garrison, family was held last Sunday Aug. the 19th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Coley C. Ramsey. There were 42 present. All the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren were there but the Edward Ramsey family who are now living in the Phillipine Islands. This was a happy occasion for all and all hoped to be able to meet again next year.

Visitors in the Dr. McCall home last week were as listed: Mrs. I. B. Bateman, Mrs. McCall's sister, Mrs. Irma Longsworth of Martinsville, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ramsey, and 3 children arrived Fri. night for the week end. They left Mon. a. m. for their home in N. C. The 3 grandchildren will spend this week with their grandparents the McCalls.

Dr. and Mrs. C. H. McCall and Mrs. I. B. Bateman spent last Tues. with their sister Mrs. J. S. Smith in Axton, Va.

County Line

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Mullins and Paul visited Mr. Bernard St. John in the Virginia Baptist Hospital in Lynchburg Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Jones and Hilda spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Shirley Reynolds and family of Farmville.

Mrs. Dan Irby was dinner guest Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mann and family.

Miss Margaret Moore spent the week end with Miss Nancy Mann.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mann and family and Mrs. Dan Irby and Miss Margaret Moore spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Maniates of Spout Spring.

Mrs. W. T. Nash is in the Lynchburg General Hospital suffering a heart disease.

Mrs. Russell Mayberry has returned home from the Va. Baptist Hospital. She and baby are doing nicely.

Mrs. Alvin Goggin of Richmond returned home Sunday. She has been visiting her daughter and son in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Mayberry.

Miss Linda Goggin of Richmond is visiting her sister Mrs. Russell Mayberry.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nash and family and Mr. Robert Merryman of Rustburg attended the Inge reunion at Appomattox Sunday.

Little Jackie Dale Kerr of Appomattox visited his grandmother, Mrs. Elliott Nash last week.

Those visiting Mr. and Mrs. Rosser Reynolds and family Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Junior Repass and Mrs. David Repass of Appomattox, Mr. Reynolds, sister and brother in law of Lynchburg.

Rocks

Rocks Aug. 20—Farmers will start cutting tobacco this week.

Mrs. Sadie Shelton spent las week with her daughter, Mrs. Bertha Shelton near Pamplin.

Friends are sorry to hear Mrs. Walter Williams entered Lynchburg General Hospital Friday. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Ruby Almond, Miss Christine Dickerson and Cassie Baldwin attended the Hale and McDowell wedding at Falling River Church near Brookneal Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Mildred Inge is spending a few days with Mrs. Rosa Marks and Barbara while Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Ranson are on vacation.

Mary Willie and Catherine Ranson spent last week end in Farmville with their aunt.

Rev. W. H. Elder preached another one of his good sermons Sunday Morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Moore and children left last week for their home in Texas. Mike Moore remained here with his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Moore and Steve returned to Texas after going to school here last winter

Mrs. Julian Glover of Crew spent today with her sisters, Mrs. Clarence Richardson and Mrs. Etta Orange.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Trent and son of Lynchburg spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Rosa Marks. A few from herewere shopping at the new "Miracle Mart" in Lynchburg Thursday.

Harry Almond was rushed to the doctor at Appomattox Sunday night after a hornet sting.

Friends are sorry to hear Mrs. Ella Jennings fell Saturday and fractured her leg. She is in Va. Baptist Hospital. We wish her a speedy recovery.

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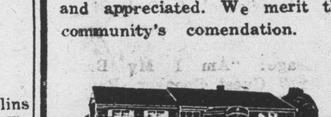

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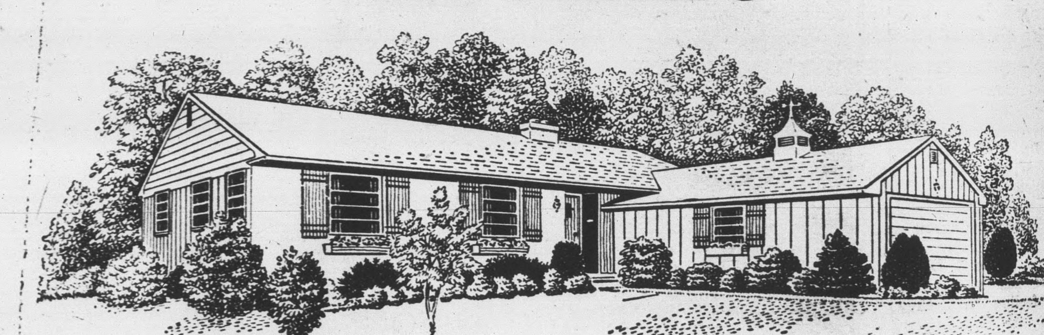

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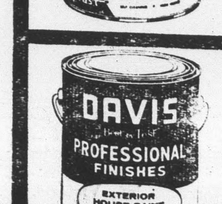

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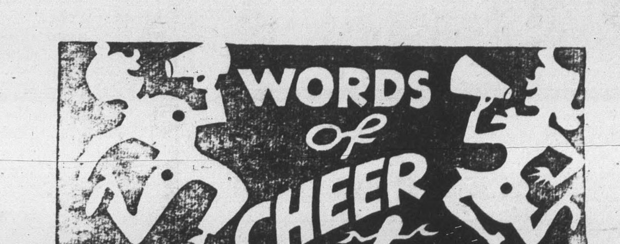

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